

*Amendments to the Claims*

1. (currently amended)      A method for delivering information to an entity, comprising the steps of:

(1)      identifying a data object to be delivered to the entity; ~~[[and]]~~

(2)      maintaining state information on behalf of the entity; and

~~[[ (2) ]]~~ (3)      delivering said data object to the entity in a form consistent with the maintained state information, comprising one or more of steps (a)-(c):

(a)      pushing said data object to the entity;

(b)      transferring said data object to the entity during a sync operation; and

(c)      transferring said data object to the entity in response to a request from said entity while said entity is surfing.

2. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein step (3a) is performed and steps (3b) and (3c) are not performed, wherein step ~~[[ (2a) ]]~~ (3a) comprises the steps of:

(i)      creating a modification event representative of said data object;

and

(ii)      sending said modification event to said entity.

3. (original)      The method of claim 2, wherein said entity processes said modification event.

4. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein step (3b) is performed and steps (3a) and (3c) are not performed, wherein step ~~[(2b)]~~ (3b) comprises the steps of:

- (i)      accessing providers for information using state information maintained on behalf of said entity;
- (ii)     receiving said information from said providers, wherein said information comprises said data object; and
- (iii)    sending said information to said entity.

5. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein step 3c is performed and steps (3a) and (3b) are not performed, wherein step ~~[(2c)]~~ 3c comprises the steps of:

- (i)      identifying one or more modification events representative of said data object, wherein said data object is associated with a said request from said entity while said entity is surfing; and
- (ii)     sending said modification events to said entity.

6. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein ~~[(2c)]~~ 3c comprises the steps of:

- (i)      accessing providers for information based on said request from said entity while said entity is surfing;
- (ii)     receiving said information from said providers, wherein said information comprises said data object; and
- (iii)    sending said information to said entity.

7. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein step ~~[(2a)]~~ (3a) is performed and steps (3b) and (3c) are not performed.

8. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein step ~~[(2b)]~~ (3b) is performed and steps (3a) and (3c) are not performed.

9. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein step ~~[(2c)]~~ 3c is performed and steps (3a) and (3b) are not performed.

10. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein steps ~~[(2a)]~~ (3a) and ~~[(2b)]~~ (3b) are performed and step (3c) is not performed.

11. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein steps ~~[(2a)]~~ (3a) and ~~[(2c)]~~ 3c are performed and step (3b) is not performed.

12. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein steps ~~[(2b)]~~ (3b) and ~~[(2c)]~~ 3c are performed and step (3a) is not performed.

13. (currently amended)      The method of claim 1, wherein steps ~~(2a), (2b) and (2e)~~ (3a), (3b), and (3c) are performed.

14. (currently amended)      A method for delivering information to an entity, comprising the steps of:

- (1) identifying a data object to be delivered to the entity; [[and]]
- (2) maintaining state information on behalf of the entity; and

[[ (2) ] (3) delivering said data object to the entity in a form consistent with the maintained state information, comprising the step of pushing said data object to the entity.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein step (2) comprises the steps of:

- (i) creating a modification event representative of said data object; and
- (ii) sending said modification event to said entity.

16. (currently amended) A method for delivering information to an entity, comprising the steps of:

- (1) identifying a data object to be delivered to the entity; and
- (2) delivering said data object to the entity, comprising the step of

transferring said data object to the entity during a sync operation;

wherein step (2) further comprises:

- (i) accessing providers for information using state information maintained on behalf of said entity;
- (ii) receiving said information from said providers, wherein said information comprises said data object; and
- (iii) sending said information to said entity in a form consistent with the maintained state information.

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A method for delivering information to an entity, comprising the steps of:

- (1) identifying a data object to be delivered to the entity; and
- (2) delivering said data object to the entity, comprising the step of transferring said data object to the entity in response to a request from said entity while said entity is surfing;

wherein step (2) further comprises:

- (i) accessing providers for information using state information maintained on behalf of said entity;
- (ii) receiving said information from said providers, wherein said information comprises said data object; and
- (iii) sending said information to said entity in a form consistent with the maintained state information.

19. (canceled)

20. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein step (2) comprises the steps of:

- (i) identifying one or more modification events representative of said data object, wherein said data object is associated with a said request from said entity while said entity is surfing; and
- (ii) sending said modification events to said entity.

21. (currently amended) A method for delivering information to an entity, comprising the steps of:

(1) generating one or more modification events representative of a modification made to a data object; [[and]]

(2) maintaining state information on behalf of the entity; and

[[ (2) ] (3) forwarding said modification events to an entity identified as a recipient of said modification events, wherein said modification events are forwarded in a form consistent with the maintained state information, wherein said entity processes said modification events.

22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein said data object is stored at said entity, and wherein said entity processes said modification events so as to update said data object.

23. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein step (2) is performed during a push operation.

24. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein step (2) is performed during a sync operation.

25. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein step (2) is performed during a surf operation.

26. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein step (2) is performed during at least one of a push operation, a sync operation, and a surf operation.

27. (canceled)

28. (new)      The method of claim 1, wherein step (3) comprises:

using the maintained state information to determine whether said data object has been previously delivered to the entity.

29. (new)      The method of claim 21, wherein step (3) comprises:

using the maintained state information to determine whether said one or more modification events have been previously delivered to the entity.

30. (new)      A computer system for delivering information to an entity,

comprising:

a storage configured to store received state information related to the entity;

a processor configured to identify a data object to be delivered to an entity in a form consistent with said state information; and

a communications interface configured to deliver said data object to the entity,

comprising:

means for pushing said data object,

means for transferring said data object to the entity during a sync operation, and

means for transferring said data object to the entity in response to a request from said entity while said entity is surfing.